Student Commission Meeting Thursday, January 25, 2018

Present: Marc Geborkoff, Lynda Heinonen, Amy Howard, Hattie Kinnisten, Judy Klutts, Jacob Loew, Erin Matas, Antonio Ochoa, Joey Philips, Travis Pierce, Laura Putwen, Abu Sayeed Md Shawon, Rochelle Spencer, Sam Willard

Welcome and Introductions - Hattie

Student Commission-Brief History – Travis

Due to a number of new members at the meeting, Travis gave a brief history of the Student Commission which has been in existence since 2005. He reported that students bring issues, problems, etc. to the meetings and a large number of them have been resolved over the years. If issues cannot be resolved at the meeting, people present will know where to bring the issue so it can be addressed or a sub-committee will be formed to look into resolution. http://www.mtu.edu/student-affairs/administration/vp/committees/student-commission/

Updates

Temporary/Handicapped Parking – Shawon

Shawon reported the Temporary/Handicapped Parking sub-committee met and reported the following action items that were determined at the meeting:

- Shawon will ask the Student Commission to develop a charge, keeping it specific to "Temporary/Handicapped Parking" and embracing a more holistic approach"
- Anita will draft something for the Student Commission to consider. Here is her suggestion: "Review handicap parking and provide recommendations for improvements to procedures and policies that impact faculty, staff and students."

Travis is working with Transportation Services to resolve this issue and will report back at the next meeting.

Student Commission – Travis

Travis challenged the Student Commission members to identify certain areas and highlight what has been accomplished so that students know their voices have been heard. This will help students realize what the Commission has done in the past and encourage them to bring any issues/concerns/problems they may have to the table.

Travis questioned how we can reach students and get their feedback. Right now we have members attending the meetings from various student groups but how do we reach the students who don't sit on committees. Some suggestions included:

- Open Forum
- Posters
- Setup table in Fisher/Library
- Exhibit areas in the Library

After lengthy discussion, a sub-committee was formed (Travis, Hattie, Jacob, Judy, and Rochelle). They will come up with the following:

- Content
- Ask Creative Suite to create a marketing plan
- They will come up with a plan for the February 22 meeting

It was commented that while it is good to market the Student Commission, students need to know what it is in the first place. Students don't know what the Student Commission is/does so that information needs to get out to them first.

Promotion of Student Commission (Flyers/Table Tents) - Rochelle

Rochelle displayed the posters, table tents, and cards (for Student Org boxes) that she had created. After discussion, it was decided that Rochelle will join the sub-committee and it will be a joint effort to promote and create awareness of the Student Commission.

Residential Life Offices – Marc

Marc reported that he wanted the two residential life officers (living in Daniell Heights) more involved with the Student Commission. Their main objective is not get students in trouble but rather work together with students on problems. Marc will forward their names to Lynda so she can add them to the roster.

Parking on Campus between 2:00-7:00 a.m. in the Winter – Antonio

Antonia commented that he often is in the Library after 2:00 a.m. and questioned what he should do about parking. Marc commented that he should contact Public Safety (487-2216) to let them know he is on campus and they will advise him as to where to park.

Contract Holder and Co-Tenant – Travis

Travis reported that in the past there have been issues with contract holders and co-tenants because the contract holder is responsible for the rent even if the co-tenant does not follow through with payment because there has not been a contract between the two.

Travis reported that he and Bonnie Gorman are working on language with the University lawyer to create a document for the students in Daniell Heights. The contract holder and co-tenant would sign and both parties would agree that if there is a concern or complaint that Housing will mediate and it would be binding. This has not been finalized yet but should be in the next month or so.

Next Meeting

The Student Commission will meet on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. in Ballroom A1, MUB.

2018 Spring Semester

- Thursday, March 8, 2018, 2:00 p.m., MUB, Superior Room, B001
- Thursday, March 22, 2018, 2:00 p.m., MUB, Superior Room B001
- Thursday, April 12, 2018, 2:00 p.m., 404 Administration Building
- Thursday, April 26, 2018, 2:00 p.m., MUB, Ballroom B3